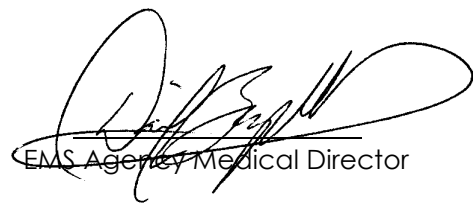


# EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

## ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Effective: July 1, 2017



EMS Agency Medical Director

### PART-TIME ALS SERVICE

#### AUTHORITY:

Contract for Prehospital Advance Life Support and Dispatch Services between the County of El Dorado and El Dorado County Regional Prehospital Emergency Services Operations Authority, Section I.

#### PURPOSE:

To establish a policy and procedure for the approval of local fire departments to provide Part-Time Advanced Life Support (PTALS) using volunteer or off duty EMT-Paramedics.

#### DEFINITIONS:

Part-Time Advanced Life Support (PTALS) – ALS units that meet every ALS contractor requirement except the provision that they be available on a continuous 24-hours-per-day basis.

Part-Time ALS Contractor– A local fire agency approved by the EMS Agency to provide Part-Time ALS service.

Part-Time ALS Responder– An EMT-Paramedic approved by the EMS Agency to perform ALS under the scope of this policy.

Patient Contact – Any interaction with a patient that includes the determination of a chief complaint or any clinical assessment.

#### POLICY:

- 1) ALS ambulances staffed part-time by the JPA contractor shall be exempt from the requirements of this policy.
- 2) Only those Part-Time ALS Contractors who have a current ALS agreement with the JPA contractor shall be authorized to operate under the scope of this policy.
- 3) Part-Time ALS Contractors may not advertise themselves as being approved ALS service, and they may respond as an ALS unit only when staffing and equipment meet ALS standards.
- 4) The Part-Time ALS Contractor shall insure that each Part-Time ALS Responder who provides ALS for the fire district under this policy has professional liability insurance.
- 5) Part-Time ALS Contractors shall be required to participate in JPA's CQI committee. The CQI Committee shall review all incidents to which a Part-Time ALS Responder responds and establishes patient contact.
- 6) Except as specifically approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director, a Part-Time ALS unit shall carry all required equipment and medications listed under County policy, "*ALS Unit Minimum Equipment Inventory (Non-Transporting)*".
- 7) All medications and ALS equipment not approved for EMT-Paramedic scope of practice shall be kept secured at all times by the Part-Time ALS Contractor when a Part-Time ALS unit is not staffed with an EMT-Paramedic.
- 8) Only EMT-Paramedics currently licensed and accredited in El Dorado County may provide Part-Time ALS under the scope of this policy.
- 9) A Part-Time ALS Responder must be legally affiliated (i.e., an employee, volunteer, reserve, paid call, etc.) with the Part-Time ALS Contractor.

- 10) To provide for continuation of care, a Part-Time ALS Responder operating under the scope of this policy shall be authorized to accompany the patient to the hospital if needed.
- 11) For non-transporting and assessment units: Contractors with issues in regards to controlled substances (morphine sulfate, Fentanyl, and midazolam) may request an exception to this equipment inventory by submitting a letter to the EMS Agency Medical Director requesting that they not be required to carry morphine sulfate or midazolam. This letter must describe the reason(s) that the contractor desires to exclude these medications from their inventory. The EMS Agency Medical Director will either approve or deny the exception and will notify the contractor in writing of his or her decision.

**PROCEDURE:**

- 1) A contractor desiring to provide part-time ALS service shall submit a request in writing to the JPA contractor.
- 2) The Part-Time ALS Contractor shall identify those individuals to provide Part-Time ALS and specify each Part-Time ALS Responder's legal affiliation to the JPA contractor.
- 3) The Part-Time ALS Contractor shall provide proof of professional liability coverage for each Part-Time ALS Responder.
- 4) The Part-Time ALS Contractor shall be responsible to provide all medical equipment and medications prescribed by the inventory list prior to implementation of operations.
- 5) The JPA contractor shall submit a request for an exemption to operate a Part-Time ALS unit to the EMS Agency for approval.
- 6) The EMS Agency shall have 30 days to review the request and determine if the agency meets the requirements of this policy.
- 7) The Part-Time ALS Contractor shall be responsible for all patient care documentation as defined in County policy, First Responder Prehospital Care Documentation.
- 8) The Part-Time ALS Contractor shall notify the JPA and the EMS Agency within 10 days when an approved Part-Time ALS Responder is no longer affiliated with the contractor, or is no longer participating in the Part-Time ALS Program on behalf of the contractor.